

The Cuban government must act now and release Alan Gross immediately and unconditionally—for the sake of the relationship between the United States and Cuban people and for the sake of the health of Alan Gross and his family.

HONORING SUPERIOR CHEVROLET

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, we need businesses to set up shop in our community to provide the goods and services that are needed in order for our citizens to survive and thrive on a day to day basis; and

Whereas, in 1969, Mr. Lamar Ferrell started Lamar Ferrell Chevrolet here in Decatur, Georgia to service the citizens of DeKalb County, Georgia and nearby communities; and

Whereas, when Mr. Ferrell passed away, the new owner Mr. Buddy Hyatt purchased the business and it has been family owned ever since under the name of Superior Chevrolet; and

Whereas, Superior Chevrolet continues to be a resource for citizens in DeKalb County and beyond with excellent service, providing employment opportunities and providing a product that "keeps America moving" contributing to the local and national economy; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia is officially honoring, recognizing and congratulating Superior Chevrolet on their forty-second (42) anniversary as a business anchor in our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim October 21, 2011 as Superior Chevrolet Day In the 4th Congressional District of Georgia

Proclaimed, this 21st day of October, 2011.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF IMPRISONMENT OF ALAN GROSS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday marks the third anniversary since American U.S. AID worker Alan Gross was arrested and unjustly imprisoned in Cuba. It is the third year in a row that the Gross family will prepare to spend another holiday season without their beloved husband, father, and son.

Alan Gross, a resident of Maryland and a long time international development worker, traveled to Cuba in 2009 to help the island's small Jewish community establish better internet access. Upon his arrival, Mr. Gross declared all of his electronic items with Cuban customs officials. Yet on December 3, 2009, he was arrested and subsequently detained for 14 months without any charges filed against him. Earlier this year, he was charged with "acts to undermine the integrity and independence" of Cuba. Mr. Gross, a non-Spanish speaking man in his 60's who has worked on development projects in over 50 countries,

certainly was not trained or equipped to engage in subterfuge.

Alan Gross has been sentenced to 15 years in jail. This preposterous sentence has caused tremendous emotional pain and financial hardship for his family, and devastated the Jewish community. Alan's daughter is currently undergoing treatment for cancer, and his 89 year old mother is in poor health and fears she will never see her son again. Alan's wife, Judy, has been caring for her ill daughter and mother-in-law while working full time to support her family. Alan himself is suffering from severe health problems due to a lack of medical treatment during his incarceration.

In October, Governor Bill Richardson traveled to Cuba with the intent to discuss Alan Gross' release. During this visit, which had been approved by the Cuban Government, Governor Bill Richardson was denied even a single meeting with Alan to assess his health. Subsequently, the Cuban government refused to discuss Alan's case with Governor Richardson.

The Castro regime has chosen to align itself with the most repressive and violent regimes in the world, counting among its friends the Venezuelan and Iranian regimes. These regimes have disregarded judicial processes in order to unjustly hold American citizens to use as leverage. We will not sit idly by and allow an American citizen to suffer at the hands of these tyrants. The Castro regime must immediately allow Alan to receive proper medical treatment and take the necessary steps to bring him home to his family as soon as possible.

My colleagues and I will continue to speak out on behalf of Alan, his family, and the Jewish community, and continue to use every tool at our disposal to secure Alan's immediate release.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORLD AIDS DAY

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the goals and ideals of World AIDS Day. A day dedicated to bringing awareness to those who have died from the disease and the strides that have been made in the fight against it.

This year marks 30 years after the first discovery of AIDS cases in the United States. The Center of Disease Control (CDC) estimates that 33.3 million people have HIV worldwide, with 1.2 million persons who are living with HIV in the United States. Every 9½ minutes, someone in the U.S. is infected with HIV. One in five living with HIV is unaware of their infection. By race, African Americans face the most severe HIV burden. The impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic spans the nation with HIV diagnoses having been reported in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. dependencies, possessions, and associated nations.

The theme for World AIDS Day 2011 is "Getting to Zero." After 30 years of the global fight against HIV/AIDS, this year the focus is on achieving 3 targets: Zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS-related deaths.

The goal of "Zero AIDS Related Deaths" signifies an increased access to available treatments for all those infected. Currently, only one third of the 15 million people living with HIV worldwide who are in need of lifelong treatment are receiving it. Universal access to antiretroviral treatments for those living with HIV will not only decrease the number of AIDS related deaths, but will increase the quality of life among those infected and decrease transmission.

World AIDS Day is an opportunity for all of us to learn the facts about HIV. By increasing the understanding of how HIV is transmitted, how it can be prevented, and the reality of living with HIV today—we can use this knowledge to take care of our own health and the health of others.

Since its discovery, countless researchers, healthcare providers, politicians, and educators have contributed to the global initiative to contain and eventually eliminate the presence of AIDS in all corners of the world. Recent scientific advancements have resulted in revolutionary breakthroughs with the potential to reverse the epidemic in coming years. I ask my colleagues to join me in this goal, to remember those who have died of the disease and to celebrate accomplishments achieved, specifically the increased access to treatment and prevention services.

It is imperative that we continue our efforts and work together to increase funding for HIV prevention and education, so that our children will be equipped with sufficient and appropriate knowledge of this growing threat within our communities until HIV/AIDS becomes a memory.

RECOGNIZING DR. ROGER GORDON SMITH'S CAREER SERVICE TO OUR NATION'S VETERANS

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor an unsung hero of the Veterans Administration, Dr. Roger Gordon Smith, M.D. Dr. Smith was born on April 6, 1951, and just recently concluded his long career serving our nation's veterans on August 26th of this year.

Dr. Smith attended Battle Creek Central High School in Michigan, where he graduated in 1969. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry with top honors from Howard University in 1973. He also earned his doctoral degree in medicine with scholastic honors from Howard University in 1977. Following that, he interned at Howard University Hospital until 1978, whereupon he obtained his license to practice medicine in the District of Columbia the following year.

With such an auspicious beginning to his career in medicine, one might have expected Dr. Smith to pursue a lucrative private practice. Instead, once he had paid off his medical school debts, Dr. Smith chose to apply his considerable talents toward a long career with the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Memphis, Tennessee. There, he attended to the often difficult and complex needs of disabled and retired veterans, most of whom were just returning from Vietnam.

Upon beginning work with the VA, Dr. Smith quickly faced skepticism and bigotry from

some of his patients because of his race. Rather than letting this become a source of discouragement, Dr. Smith instead quietly and calmly carried out his vital work each day with warmth and good humor. He was known to have convinced more than a few patients to let go of their racial animus because of his professional demeanor and attentiveness to his patients' needs and concerns. Dr. Smith believes that it is a great privilege to be entrusted with the well being of our nation's veterans, and that commitment to service is reflected in the way he cared for our nation's wounded.

Among his colleagues, Dr. Smith's bedside manner was considered "a thing of beauty." He was always open, accessible, and never made anyone feel like they were imposing a burden on his time. His calm manner under stress exerted a calming influence on those around him. As a resident teacher, Dr. Smith was sought-after by physicians-in-training for his professional enthusiasm and expertise. His patients regarded him as their primary care physician of choice, and considered his office in the VA "the gold standard" in healthcare. He took even the most mundane talks seriously whenever it concerned a veteran's well-being, listening carefully to every patient's story, dutifully tracking each patient's clinical needs, no matter how small.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. Roger Gordon Smith for his dedication to his country, his service to our nation's wounded and the inspiration he has provided to his students and his colleagues. Dr. Smith's great achievement is three decades of daily service to our veterans, acting as the open hand of a grateful nation to our nation's wounded warriors. Dr. Smith is what every physician should strive to be.

HONORING BISHOP QUINCY
LAVELLE CARSWELL

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Bishop Quincy Lavelle Carswell, is celebrating fifty (50) years in preaching the gospel this year and has provided stellar leadership to his church on an international level; and

Whereas, Bishop Quincy Lavelle Carswell, under the guidance and calling of God began preaching the word of God as a child and has transformed over the years as pastor of the historic Tabernacle Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia from 1975–1992, founding Covenant Ministries of Metropolitan Atlanta in 1993; and

Whereas, from Miami, Florida to Atlanta, Georgia, he has transformed, trail blazed and taught the gospel on a national and international level wherein the lives of many have been touched; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has been and continues to be a blessing to us as a spiritual leader, an educator and a community leader who not only talks the talk, but walks the walk; and

Whereas, Bishop Carswell is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary

who has shared not only with his Church, but with our District and the world his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Bishop Quincy Lavelle Carswell, as he celebrates his 50th Pastoral Anniversary;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim October 23, 2011 as Bishop Quincy Lavelle Carswell Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 23rd day of October, 2011.

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Colorado School of Mines Women's Softball Team, who last spring won a berth at the NCAA Women's Softball Tournament for the second time in school history. The Orediggers finished the year with a conference record of 28–11, and an overall record of 36–24, sharing the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Championship with Metropolitan State College of Denver. The School of Mines also hosted the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference softball championship last spring. The three day event was a success for the School of Mines and all the schools that participated. Two of the School of Mines players were named to the All Tournament Team, Kelly Unkrich, and Macy Jones.

The women of the Orediggers softball team should be extremely proud of their 2011 season, and their efforts on the diamond and in the classroom. These women exemplify the idea of the collegiate student-athlete. The Colorado School of Mines specializes in hard sciences, and I commend these young women in their dedication to fields that have traditionally been male dominated. They are an inspiration to girls everywhere who want to study science and engineering.

I also want to congratulate pitcher Kelly Unkrich who was named the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Women's Athlete of the Month for April 2011.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the women of the Colorado School of Mines Women's Softball Team. The lessons they are learning as student-athletes will make these women the science and technology leaders of tomorrow. I am proud to have this world class school in my district. I wish the team best of luck in the 2012 season. I hope it is even more successful than 2011, again congratulations, and Go Orediggers!

TRIBUTE TO MR. TOM HOSEA,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HICA

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have known Mr. Tom Hosea since the late 1960s and early 1970s. When I first met Tom, he

was an executive with the American Hospital Association; many of us who met and ran together at that time were health activists. I say ran together because we attended so many meetings until it seemed as a natural thing to do. Although there were many emerging groups, Tom was actively involved with the Chicago chapter of the National Association of Health Services Executives. As a matter of fact, Tom was the highest ranking African-American, or Black person, that we knew who worked for the American Hospital Association at that time.

Tom got the community action bug and the next thing I knew he was working with Dr. Levy, a Black Hebrew Israelite down East of Ashland on Roosevelt Road in an area called the Valley where the Westside organization operated with Chester Robinson, Thursty Darden, Rev. Archie Hargraves, Rev. John Crawford, and others in its leadership. Later on, Tom got involved in the Austin community and worked with Mary Volpe as Assistant Director of the Northeast Austin Community Organization and after Sam Flowers died, Tom became the Executive Director of HICA which he has struggled to keep alive.

When I first knew Tom his name was Hozier; he also got involved with the entertainment business spinning records and putting on events; next thing I knew, I along with everyone else that I knew was calling him Hosea. Tom has passed away, but he led a very active life and had a very meaningful and colorful career.

To his wife and family, we express our condolences and know that the value of his work will go on and on.

WORLD AIDS DAY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, as we pause to reflect on World AIDS Day, I want to thank the many activists and advocates who work tirelessly—every day—to focus increased attention on HIV/AIDS education, treatment and prevention. I want to recognize the great work of David Munar and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, and Mark Ishaug and AIDS United, who—along with countless organizations across the country and world—are working to end HIV/AIDS and to ensure that people with HIV/AIDS live longer and better lives.

HIV/AIDS is one of the world's most pressing global health challenges. It is a danger to global security and to the future of people around the world. Nearly 35 million people are living with HIV/AIDS around the world, including over one million Americans. Our community, our nation and the entire world are threatened by this terrible pandemic.

As the HIV virus has spread, the face of its victims has changed. Women now account for 52 percent of the adults living with HIV/AIDS around the world. In regions like sub-Saharan Africa, gender inequalities have left women particularly vulnerable to infection. The battle to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS among women will ultimately hinge on our ability to empower them with the information and the tools needed to protect themselves, their families and their communities. That is one of the reasons